

Virginia Building Code Academy Year-in-Review

Building and fire codes are essential to ensuring the safety and welfare of all citizens and visitors of Virginia. Properly enforcing these codes requires Virginia's code professionals to be trained and certified, which is exactly what we do at the Virginia Building Code Academy.

In 2022, the academy issued over 600 new code enforcement certifications, trained over 2,100 participants and supported over 1,000 existing code enforcement professionals to maintain their certifications through continuing education and code change training.

The VA Building Code Academy benefits from the many experts within our industry. For example, the subject-matter experts and instructors who volunteered 2,312 hours in the development and delivery of the code academy training throughout the year.

Among our accomplishments for 2022, DHCD streamlined the trades curricula by separating the residential and commercial sections, thereby providing more precise and targeted training for code enforcement personnel.



Train the Trainer

Recruiting and training talented, experienced instructors is a big focus of the code academy. In 2022, DHCD partnered with the University of Richmond Robins School of Business Executive Education program to develop and facilitate "Train the Trainer" event. The training program provides new instructor candidates with the skills and experience they need to be effective instructors in the classroom and offers networking opportunities with existing academy instructors. This year's program had 13 graduates into apprentice instructor roles, filling critical gaps on the code academy's instructional teams.

Certification Courses



1,390 Courses Completed
704 Participants Trained

Core Prerequisites



741 Modules Completed
374 Participants Trained

Continuing Education Courses



882 Courses Completed
405 Participants Trained
44 Self-Paced Trainings

Learning Center



4,004 Modules Completed
1,117 Participants Trained

Code Change Training



3,219 Self-Paced Trainings
682 Participants Trained

Applications Processed



604 Certifications Issued
995 Continuing Education